

## Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AID-20 EB-11 SCA-01 SY-10 USSS-00

FBIE-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 FAA-00 DOTE-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 L-03

H-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 A-01 IO-14 DRC-01 /182 W

----- 046038

R 061508Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3718

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 13934

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS UR

SUBJ: TERRORISM: ALLEGED ABORTED HIJACKING OF DOMESTIC FLIGHT

REF: STATE 217883

1. WESTERN CORRESPONDENTS LACK INDEPENDENT CONFIRMATION THAT HIJACKING ATTEMPT IN FACT TOOK PLACE. HOWEVER STORIES ABOUT ALLEGED HIJACK ATTEMPT ARE SPREADING THROUGH MOSCOW, AND THERE IS SOME FRAGMENTARY EVIDENCE THAT ONE DID ACTUALLY OCCUR. ORIGINAL INFORMATION ABOUT HIJACK ATTEMPT REPORTEDLY REACHED CORRESPONDENTS FROM LOCAL SAS OFFICE AND FROM REPORTER FOR LONDON FINANCIAL TIMES, WHO IS MARRIED TO SOVIET CITIZEN.

2. AS STORY GOES, FOUR INDIVIDUALS ATTEMPTED TO HIJACK YAK-40 AIRCRAFT WHICH FLYING ROUTE BRYANSK-MOSCOW (BYKOVO AIRPORT) ON AFTERNOON OF NOVEMBER 2. FLIGHT REPORTEDLY LANDED AT MOSCOW'S UNIKOVO AIRPORT FOR REFUELING PRIOR TO PROCEEDING TO STOCKHOLM, WHICH REPORTEDLY DESTINATION OF GROUP. (MEMBERS OF GROUP DESCRIBED AS BEING UNDER TWENTY YEARS OF AGE.) NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN HIJACKERS AND SOVIET AUTHORITIES, CONFIDENTIAL

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INCLUDING, ACCORDING TO ONE REPORT, MINISTER OF

AVIATION BUGAYEV, LASTED FOR APPROXIMATELY FIVE HOURS BEFORE POLICE STROMED AIRCRAFT, KILLING TWO HIJACKERS AND WOUNDING OR KILLING ONE OTHER PASSENGER ON PLANE. HIJACKERS REPORTEDLY DEMANDED ONE MILLION DOLLARS WHICH THEY SAID SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE PLAN ONLY BY A WOMAN.

3. AS POSSIBLY INDICATION THAT UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES EXISTED IN MOSCOW AIRSPACE NOVEMBER 2, WE NOTE THAT AUSTRIAN AIRLINES FLIGHT FROM VIENNA TO MOSCOW WAS DIVERTED TO WARSAW FOR ONE HOUR STOPOVER THAT AFTER-NOON. PASSENGERS EVENTUALLY GIVEN EXPLANATION THAT "SECURITY" CONSIDERATIONS HAD LED TO DIVERSION. INDIVIDUAL ABOARD FLIGHT SAID UNUSUALLY LARGE NUMBER OF FLIGHTS APPEARED STACKED UP AT SHEREMETYEVO II AIRPORT LATE THAT AFTERNOON.

4. MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION HAS DECLINED TO COMMENT ABOUT ALLEGED INCIDENT.  
DUBS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PARAMILITARY FORCES, AIRCRAFT HIJACKING  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 NOV 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** willialc  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973MOSCOW13934  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** STATE 217883  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** willialc  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 25 SEP 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <25-Sep-2001 by smithrj>; APPROVED <23-Oct-2001 by willialc>  
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**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TERRORISM: ALLEGED ABORTED HIJACKING OF DOMESTIC FLIGHT  
**TAGS:** PINS, UR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005